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The Feminine Imperial Theme

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The Imperial Theme - the idea of Empire as not merely a political unit but a saving community - an embodiment of the Way of Heaven, the Golden Order or Divine Thamë on earth - is known throughout the civilised (that is to say, city-based) world.

It is found in China and Japan, in India and Europe, and among the peoples of ancient Central America.

In Japan the Imperial Theme revolves around the Sun Goddess Amaterasu Omikami.

In Europe it was revived at the time of the Renaissance and was centred around the figure of Astraea, goddess of Order and Purity (in Filianic tradition the daughter of Sai Thamë), the last Deity to leave the earth at the end of the Golden Age, and who was expected to return at the end of the Era.

In England, Astraea was identified with the Virgin Queen, Elizabeth I (*vide* Dr. Frances A Yates, *Astraea: the Imperial Theme in the Sixteenth Century*).

As we have discussed elsewhere, the Renaissance gave rise to a brief resurgence of Traditional thought in the West, which was quickly submerged in the tide of "scientific" materialism. After this brief revival of its ancient significance, the Imperial Theme in Europe quickly became a matter of crude politics and finance - and the feminine element was forgotten at the same time.

In the Feminine Empire of Aristasia, the Imperial Theme revolves around the figure of the first Raihiranya (Empress), Sai Rayanna, the daughter of the Sun Goddess Sai Raya.

The story of Sai Rayanna is enshrined in the Aristasian Imperial Anthem. The words of this Anthem tell the story of Sai Rayanna and express the profound metaphysical significance of the traditional concept of Empire.

The following commentary comes from Encyclopaedia Aristasiana:

> *From the mountain's rayant pinnaclé*
> *To the troublèd waters of the sea,*

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Clearly means, geographically, "from the inland mountains to the coasts" i.e. throughout the land. However it also signifies metaphysically: "from the Centre or 'mountain-peak' from whose radiance all things take their being, to the outward world of flux and change".

"Troublèd" means "turbulent" but also refers to the inherent sorrows of the changing world of samsara. The underlying thought is that expressed in the Scripture:

Earth moves but Heaven is still
The rim revolves, but the Centre remains without motion.

While the troublèd, or turbulent, sea, - beyond the shores of Empire - is pure samsara, the Holy Raihir itself is to some extent protected from the worst vicissitudes of worldly chaos by the Celestial Influence of the Solar Empress. This influence is described in the lines:

O, Rayan' thy rule doth run
As coursers of the sun,

Here we have the traditional image of the sun's rays as horses, galloping out from the central point, spreading the benign warmth and light of the Spirit into places that would otherwise be dark and "troublèd"

Rayan' is Sai Rayanna the First, the solar avatar who defeated the demonic forces then besetting the land and became the first empress of Aristasia, from whom all subsequent Empresses are descended and by virtue of whose blood they are termed Sun-Daughters.

The repeated pledge of allegiance is all-important, since it is only insofar as we affiliate ourselves in harmony and obedience to the Golden Order that we may be rescued by it from the turbulence of chaotic being.

Thus, the Imperial anthem is a hymn to the saving harmony of the Golden Order as manifested through the Celestial Empire and its Solar Empress.

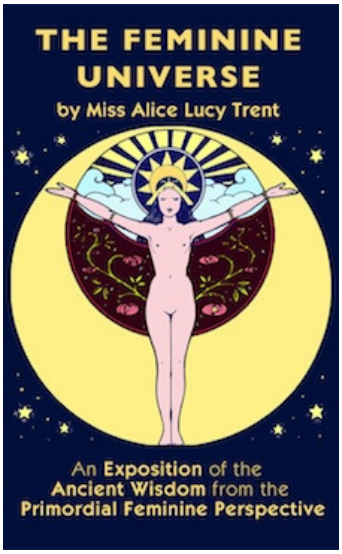
This commentary only touches the first verse and chorus (the most commonly sung part) of the Anthem. For a full account of the story of the Imperial Anthem, visit this page.

The Aristasian Imperial Anthem embodies the feminine version of the Imperial Theme at its finest and purest.

SAI RAYANNA DAY
Aristasians celebrate the Day of Sai Rayanna in late spring, on May 16th. In the following MP3 audio clip, honored Raya Chancandre explains the full significance of our Imperial Day, drawing parallels with American, European, Indian and Japanese traditions to illustrate parallels to the many-faceted and complex set of ideas that underlie the celebration of this joyful festival.

See also:

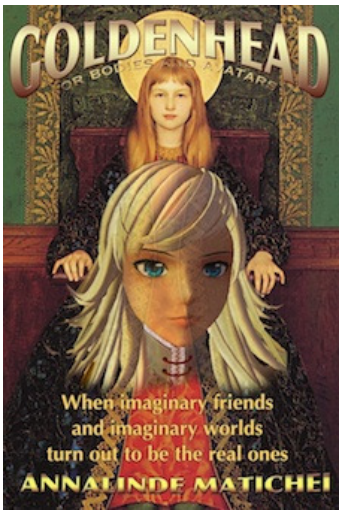
Warrior Queen Sai Rayanna


THE FEMININE UNIVERSE
by Miss Alice Lucy Trent
An Exposition of the Ancient Wisdom from the Primordial Feminine Perspective

The Other Philosophy

Everything you have ever heard comes out of the patriarchal world-view. Its materialism, its religion, even its feminism. Here is the *other* way of seeing the world; the natural way: the way that everyone saw things before patriarchy and will again when patriarchy is long forgotten.

Goldenhead: or Bodies and Avatars



"They say your imaginary friends aren't your real friends.But who stands by you when you lose your physical body?"

Did you have imaginary friends? Live in imaginary worlds? Were you sure they were really imaginary? Of course you weren't. Goldenhead crosses the barrier between the "real world" and the world they told her was just her "imagination". She meets the

friends she dreamed, and finds that some of them thought they were dreaming her.

Goldenhead is an all-girl novel of courage and adventure, of love and friendship, of the eternal battle between light and darkness. It is a book for everyone who feels out of place in this world.

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